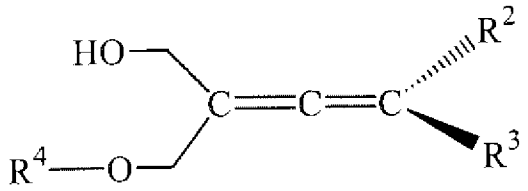
Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

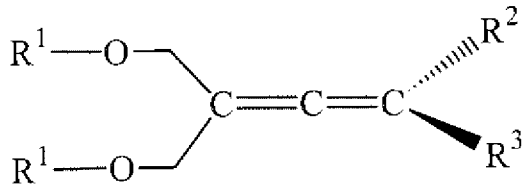
Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing an optically active allene represented by formula (1):



(1)

wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-20} aryl group, and R^4 represents an acyl group, which comprises reacting an allene derivative represented by formula (2):



(2)

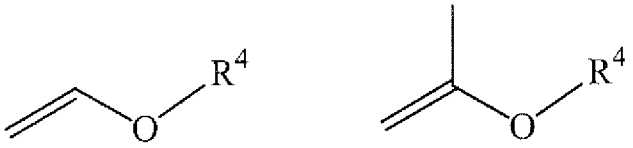
wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom and R^2 and R^3 have the same meaning as defined above, with an acylating agent having an acyl group represented by R^4, in the presence of ~~an enzyme catalyst~~ a lipase enzyme which is at least one member selected from the group

consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase, *Pseudomonoas cepacia* lipase, *Porcine liver* esterase and *Candida rugosa* lipase.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim [[2]] 1, wherein the ~~enzyme catalyst~~ lipase enzyme is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase and [[,]] *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase~~, porcine pancreatic lipase, porcine liver esterase and Candida rugosa lipase~~.

4. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein the acylating agent is a compound represented by:



(3a) or (3b)

wherein R^4 represents an acyl group.

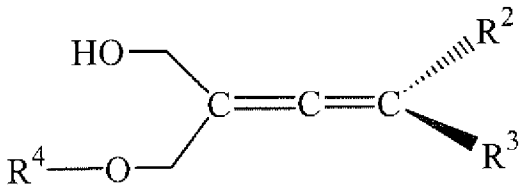
5. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^1 is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkylcarbonyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-20} arylcarbonyl group.

6. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-10} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-10} aryl group.

7. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-8} aryl group.

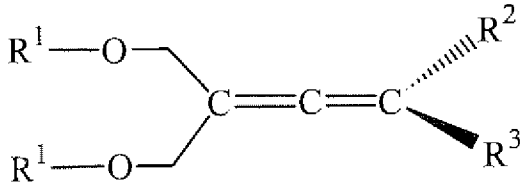
8. (Previously Presented) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein R^4 is an acetyl group, a butyryl group or a benzoyl group.

9. (Previously Presented/Currently Amended) A process for producing an optically active allene represented by formula (1):



(1)

wherein R^2 and R^3 are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C_{1-20} alkyl group or an optionally substituted C_{6-20} aryl group, and R^4 represents an acyl group, which comprises reacting an allene derivative represented by formula (2):



(2)

wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted acyl group and R^2 and R^3 have the same meaning as defined above, with an acylating agent having an acyl group represented by R^4 when both R^1s are each a hydrogen atom or with water when both R^1s are each an acyl group represented by R^4, in the presence of a lipase enzyme which is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens*

lipase, *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase, ~~Porcine pancreatic lipase~~ *Porcine liver* esterase and *Candida rugosa* lipase.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented/Currently Amended) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 9, wherein the lipase enzyme is at least one member selected from the group consisting of Candida antarctica lipase, Pseudomonas fluorescens lipase and Pseudomonas cepacia lipase.

12. (Previously Presented/Currently Amended) The process for producing an optically active allene according to any one of claims 9 ~~to~~ or 11, wherein R^4 is an acetyl group, a butyryl group or a benzoyl group.